

TOP SECRETMINUTES OF IAC MEETING - 20 MAY 1949

DIRECTOR: There is very little to talk about this afternoon.

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The Project: A memo was circulated on May 3 and all except Air have replied and approved the project. I believe, from talking with them, that Air will approve it. We would like an answer on that.

Medical Intelligence: I would like to find out if we possibly can get a report in on Medical Intelligence before the next meeting so we can finish this up. The heat extends all the way from the Pentagon here and it is getting more and more. It started last October and we feel an answer is due here pretty soon. If you can, get this ad hoc committee on that to get some sort of answer before the next meeting, or say an answer is coming up. That is another month. I am afraid if we don't we may get hit with an answer.

MR. ARMSTRONG: I don't think we have any adverse views.

DIRECTOR: I don't think there are too many adverse views. If the members will needle their ad hoc committee members - let us either get a dissent or a concurrence so we can come up with some sort of a reply. I think everybody has answered but they still don't come to any firm conclusions. We can't get up a joint one.

ADM. INGLIS: You want us to needle them. What about?

DIRECTOR: Start working on it.

MR. CHILDS: The Army's reply that just came in is what upset the apple cart.

DIRECTOR: A lot of things are happening.

ADM. INGLIS: I want to do whatever I can, I don't quite understand what you want me to do.

DIRECTOR: Tell Ocker when we call a meeting to be there, and he will be there.

MR. CHILDS: With not too many ideas.

DIRECTOR: With some ideas.

Foreign Translations of Foreign Documents and Exploitation: I

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think the interdepartmental committee is now working on that and they are going to have an answer. We are holding out and I think you will all agree that it would be better to call it exploitation of foreign documents rather than translation. We simply don't have the people or the money and I don't think anyone else does to make a translation - using the term - a full and complete translation. They get a book and they want the whole thing translated and maybe there are three pages that are of interest for intelligence purposes. We don't have the people. We could exploit those three pages, or a chapter. I think that is running pretty well.

The Industrial Register Cards: They Army and Air Force do not agree with the proposed changes and we will continue work on that.

25X1 Since that piece was written, we finally resolved the whole problem on that for the present, and a message has been sent to the Standing Committee Members for transmission to their IAC members, to postpone any further questions on the Industrial Register Card file for some time, at least until the backlog existing in CIA is eliminated. So that can be taken off the pending projects.

DIRECTOR: The Foreign Names are going along very well. That is all I have to bring up. Park, do you have anything?

MR. ARMSTRONG: No.

CAPT. McCOLL: No, I am just here listening.

COL. SMITH: We had one minor matter. We had a letter from Mr. Hoover, the FBI, concerning these foreign defectors and General Bolling replied to the effect that this whole matter was being studied by a Service Committee and CIA, with the idea of eventually taking it up to the IAC here. I think this matter has been more or less in the mill for nine months. The question is, can you stir that up some and get this whole question of defectors finished.

DIRECTOR: The FBI has had people on that board too. We will try

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and get an answer on that. Carey is on that for us. I think the last I heard about it they had pretty good agreement with everybody but the FBI.

COL. SMITH: The I.I.C. is working on that and they have some ideas. I think everybody is in agreement with the idea.

GEN. MOORE: I have nothing to offer.

ADM. INGLIS: Something just occurred to me and I may be all off base because I am not completely informed. We are becoming very much concerned about the developments in China, the position that the United States is getting itself put into in the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia and that whole part of the world. It just seems to me that the intelligence side of that question hasn't yet been adequately handled. We haven't carried out our responsibility to our Government and our respective Departments. Things are moving too fast. I'm afraid events are overtaking intelligence instead of intelligence keeping ahead of the events. I hear CIA did get a study out on that. The Navy was very unhappy about the study at the time it was issued, and I rather suspect, due to the month or so that has elapsed since the study was made, that it is perhaps time for another one.

DIRECTOR: We shall get another one out.

MR. ARMSTRONG: If you are referring to the one I think, ORE 17-49, the State Department is very unhappy over that, particularly the major conclusions of that paper. We appear, by error on our part, to have concurred on it in full. Our concurrence should have been limited to the political estimate of 1952 only and not to the paper as a whole. We are going to ask CIA to distribute a paper to the holders of that ORE one, limiting our concurrence and indicating the basis for our non-concurrence on the remainder of the paper. I would like to suggest that whole question be brought under study again because I don't believe - I will put it the other way - I do believe the issue there is so major, so important, that not too much time or too much effort can be spent on it. The State Department, particularly, would like

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to restate, or state anew its views.

DIRECTOR: I think instead of 1952, it should be 1949.

MR. ARMSTRONG: That changes the assumptions.

ADM. INGLIS: I am speaking of the near term, immediate significance on that. Six months ago we might have been thinking about 1952, but now it's 1950.

DIRECTOR: We will start up the working boys on a paper for the next six months or next year.

ADM. INGLIS: Why do we have to start with assumptions on time at all? Say: here it is, this is it and this is what it's going to be.

DIRECTOR: We can do that.

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